GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2432
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
SETTLEMENT COMMISSION ON OVERCHARGING CASES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Settlement Commission to resolve all the pending cases relating to overcharging by pharmaceutical companies;

(b) if so, whether the outstanding demands of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and the Government claims under Drug Price Equilization Account are proposed to be transferred to the proposed Commission;

(c) if so, the time by which this Commission is likely to be set up; and

(d) the extent to which this will facilitate the clearance of the pending cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (d): Based on the recommendations of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Pharmaceuticals) and the Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission as well as feedback received from other stakeholders the Government have formulated a Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 (Part-A-excluding pricing) which has been circulated to various departments/stakeholders seeking their comments. This draft policy also contains a proposal to set up a Settlement Commission to resolve all the pending cases relating to overcharging by pharmaceutical companies under the Drugs (Prices Control) Orders issued from to time. Based on the comments received from various stakeholders the Government is likely to finalize the new Policy shortly.